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**From:** Rupp, Mark  
**To:** McLerran, Dennis  
**CC:** Carter, Asha; Johnston, Khanna  
**Sent:** 1/20/2015 11:12:31 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Priorities

Nope. This is great. Just adding Khanna and Asha. Thanks, Dennis.

**From:** McLerran, Dennis  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 20, 2015 11:11 AM  
**To:** Rupp, Mark  
**Subject:** FW: Priorities

Mark:

I did send the priorities message on Friday, but only to Gwen, Stan and the Administrator. Should I forward it to a broader list? See below.

Dennis

**From:** McLerran, Dennis  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2015 5:45 PM  
**To:** KeyesFleming, Gwendolyn; Meiburg, Stan  
**Cc:** Adm13McCarthy, Gina; Pirzadeh, Michelle; Holsman, Marianne; Dunbar, Bill; Chu, Ed  
**Subject:** Priorities

Gwen:

Here are my priorities for the remaining time we have. I know there are too many of them, but I can't help myself. I actually would have added a few more if the list wasn't getting so long. Let me know if you need more on these.

**Non-Responsive**

# Non-Responsive

6) **Oregon CZARA.** We will be formally disapproving Oregon's Coastal Zone Management Plan this January and that could mean a substantial loss of federal water quality funding to Oregon. I have been working with NOAA, the DEQ Director and the Oregon Governor's Office on what it will take for Oregon to get back on track with respect to forest practices to avoid a train wreck on this. We have had promising discussions with Oregon on this and I am working on an exchange of letters that would occur in February which would set milestones for Oregon to meet to get back on track. This has been hard work with our own staff and with NOAA folks who have been working on this for a long time but it is worth it if we can get the environmental outcome we are looking for.

# Non-Responsive

universities' focus on nutrients, and the increase in the number of dairies in the northwest makes dairy waste a top priority for the Region over the next two years. We are working with a number of partners to help coordinate the introduction of advanced digester technologies in the Yakima Valley that will create biogas to reduce methane and create carbon credits and include nitrate recovery which can be used as a valuable fertilizer.

- 10) **Idaho NPDES Delegation.** Idaho is in a critical stage over the next two years to develop the capacity to take over the NPDES program for the state. We completed that process for Alaska during my first two years with the Agency and now Idaho needs our assistance to develop a strong, well-funded program that creates the right expectations with industry. Industry needs to know that Idaho needs a strong program and that we will enforce through our oversight if they don't have a strong program. We have been coordinating closely with Idaho on this and have a much improved relationship with their water quality program through work we have done with them on difficult permits like the Dixie Drain project for the City of Boise and the TMDL process for the Boise River. So, seeing this through to successful completion is an important step in continuing to see improvements in Idaho's water quality program.
- 11) **Congressional Relations.** The concentration of resource extraction (oil, gas, minerals, fish) industries in Region 10 requires significant EPA involvement in all manner of projects. It is increasingly important that members of congress and their staffs understand our work – our roles as required by law, our responsibilities to tribes and our goals for collaboration. It will be very important to attempt to create new, and expand existing, relationships with our region's members of Congress to reduce anxieties, suspicions and misperceptions about our work and the agency's goals. We coordinate well with OCIR and intend to work very closely with the Administrator, Laura, OCFO and the AA's on furthering successful relationship building and understanding. Bill Dunbar and Marianne Holsman, our PAD, have been invaluable partners with me on this.
- 12) **Organizational Reforms.** As we have become smaller as an Agency it is important that we look at the organizational structure at Region 10. We are moving below 500 staff from a peak of well over 600 just a few years ago. This has created major stress regarding workloads for staff and managers. I am working with the Region's career Executive Team to restructure the work and the organization to make sure we are adapting to the new funding environment. I would like to complete that work this year.

**Dennis J. McLerran**  
*Regional Administrator*  
U.S. EPA, Region 10  
Office: 206-553-1234  
Fax: 206-553-1809